

Though they are a non-partisan group, the Dearborn/Dearborn Heights Chapter of the League of Women's Voters is extremely political, focusing their efforts on child health and welfare, juvenile justice, and campaign finance reform. A League representative sits on the Rouge River Advisory Council, as well as the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Educational Advisory Council. As spelled out in their original charter, the League's actions are always a reflection their member's priorities.

I would like to recognize the current officers of the Dearborn/Dearborn Heights Chapter of the League of Women Voters: Elizabeth Linick, Janice Berry, Mary Jo Durivage, Jeni Dunn and Mary Bugeia. I thank all the fine members of this Chapter of the League for all their hard work over the past 50 years, and would ask that they keep it up. On the occasion of their 50th anniversary, I would ask all my colleagues to salute the Dearborn/Dearborn Heights Chapter of the League of Women Voters.

21ST CENTURY MONTGOMERY GI BILL ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1291, the 21st Century Montgomery GI Bill Enhancement Act.

The bill includes numerous provisions to help veterans. It broadens the categories of illnesses connected to Agent Orange and the Gulf War Sickness, and it increases educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill for full-time students from \$650 per month to \$800 starting on January 1, 2002, to \$900 in FY03, and to \$985 in FY03.

Section 302 extends the Native American Veterans Housing Loan Program until 2006. The program was scheduled to expire in 2002.

Tribal lands are generally held in trust. Lands held in trust cannot be encumbered by those who use it. As a result, native people have historically had limited access to mortgages to build and repair houses.

The Native American Veterans Housing Loan Pilot Program was created by legislation authored by Senator DANIEL AKAKA in 1992. It provides direct housing loans to Native American veterans to purchase, construct, or improve dwellings on trust lands. The program helps Native American, Native Hawaiians, and Native Alaskans who were honorably released from active duty service since World War II.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1291 to recognize and compensate the service that native people have made to defend our country.

HONORING DR. ROBERT CARVER
BONE OF LEBANON, TN, AS AN
OUTSTANDING TENNESSEAN

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Robert Carver Bone of Lebanon,

TN, as an outstanding Tennessean, who has made numerous contributions to medicine, education, and the community-at-large. I consider Dr. Bone a dear friend and confidante of many years.

Dr. Bone will be honored by Cumberland University during the Clement Leadership Reception on December 22 for numerous accomplishments—including his leadership as Chairman of the Board of Trust from 1982 through May 2001. As president of Cumberland University from 1983 through 1987 and a current member of the Board of Trust, I have personally worked closely with Dr. Bone for a significant period of time and I have seen the devotion, care, and attention, that he has lavished upon that hallowed institution.

A native of Lebanon, TN, and an early achiever, Dr. Bone graduated as valedictorian of Lebanon High School in 1954, and earned a Bachelor of Arts from Vanderbilt University in 1958, where he graduated magna cum laude. Meanwhile, he completed the mathematics program at Cumberland in 1957 and the genetics program at Harvard in 1961. He received his Doctor of Medicine from Vanderbilt in 1962, while completing internships with Stanford University Hospital in Palo Alto, California, and Presbyterian Hospital in San Francisco. His residencies in pediatrics and surgery were completed in 1967 through 1969 at Vanderbilt, and 1971 through 1975, respectively. Later, in 1985, he earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Vanderbilt's Owen School of Business Management and then received a Doctor of Letters from Cumberland in 1994.

His military experience includes service as a flight surgeon and commander of the USAF, 1974–1980; commander of the 118th Tactical Hospital, USAF, 1974–1980; and U.S. Army flight surgeon in 1997.

He has participated in numerous furthering education programs such as study overseas in 1959 with the Wellcome Library of Historic Medicine in London, the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, and a preceptorship with Dr. G.A. Grant Peterkin in Leyden, Montpelier, Uppsala.

Dr. Bone has also completed a number of assistantships and fellowships including work as a research assistant on nuclear medicine at Vanderbilt in 1961; a World Study Tour with the Institutes of Nutrition in 65 countries from 1962–1963; mission hospital visits in Kenya, Tanzania in 1986; and a surgical oncology fellowship in 1987 at Vanderbilt. Further, he carries certifications from the American Board of Pediatrics, the American Board of Surgery, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, and Advanced Trauma Life Support.

He is beloved throughout Middle Tennessee, having practiced medicine in the community of Lebanon for nearly 40 years, and having performed surgeries at numerous Nashville area hospitals. These include Vanderbilt, Baptist, St. Thomas, Donelson, University Medical Center, Nashville General Hospital, Humana Hospital McFarland, Williamson County Medical Center, and Summit Medical Center.

Every endeavor undertaken by Dr. Robert Carver Bone is met with enthusiasm and excellence. His educational influence and expertise has impacted both Vanderbilt and Cumberland over the years, as he has continually shared his experience with students pursuing the medical field, both as an instructor and

professor. In 1982, he published techniques in Surgery with the Vanderbilt Surgical Faculty, through Vanderbilt University Press.

Dr. Bone's involvement in his community is renowned. In 1985, he represented Wilson County in Tokyo, Japan, on a mission to recruit at Toyota plant to Tennessee. Also that year, he represented the National Association of Independent Business on a mission sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce, to promote the export of U.S. products to the Far East in Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan.

In 1987, Bone represented Cumberland University to establish exchange relationships at the faculty level between Cumberland and Armidale College in New South Wales, Australia. He also negotiated with the Soviets and British over freeing a Zanbari dental student from Moscow to Prague, Cairo, Nairobi, and Zanzibar.

Further, he has served as President of the Wilson County Medical Society, and as a member of the Board of Health, Public Health Department of Wilson County.

Because of Dr. Bone's outstanding contributions to the university, the community, and the state Tennessee throughout his lifetime—we honor him today.

HONORING STANLEY ROGERS ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to a man who has been active in the New Haven community for nearly 50 years. Today, I am pleased to join family, friends, and colleagues in wishing Stanley Rogers the very best as he celebrates his retirement.

A lifelong New Haven resident, Stanley has served his community in a variety of ways throughout his life. For forty-two years, he worked at G&O, a manufacturing company which made automotive parts. During his tenure at G&O, Stanley became the first African-American to serve as President of the United Auto Workers in Connecticut—fighting for better wages, more comprehensive health benefits, and safer work environments for his membership. In addition to his career with G&O, Stanley also served on the Redevelopment Agency with former Mayor Richard Lee in a time when New Haven underwent one of its most sweeping economic redevelopment periods. It was also during this time that Stanley presented the first affirmative action plan for minority hiring in the building trades to the Redevelopment Agency. His actions went a long way in assuring good jobs for New Haven's minority communities.

Stanley has also been involved with the local municipal government for nearly 20 years. He was first elected to New Haven's Board of Aldermen in 1981 where he served as its president Pro Tempore from 1992 to 1994 and for 3 years as the chairman of the Board's Black and Hispanic Caucus. His dedication and commitment to New Haven's 22nd Ward made a real difference in the lives of so many. After his tenure on the Board of Alderman, Stanley served three terms as the city/

town clerk—a position from which he retired earlier this year.

Stanley's involvement with the New Haven community stretches far beyond his professional and political career. His participation in a number of local civic and service organizations reflect his personal commitment to enriching the lives of our fellow citizens. The United Way, the Private Industry Council, and the Dixwell Community Development Corporation are just a few who have benefitted from his time and efforts.

I am pleased to rise today to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to Stanley Rogers for his invaluable contributions to our community and my very best wishes as he enjoys his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO POLK CREEK ELEMENTARY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Polk Creek Elementary in recognition of their achievement as an "Exemplary" school.

Polk Creek Elementary has been selected as one of the top 50 schools in West Virginia. "Exemplary" status is based on Stanford Achievement Test results, attendance, drop out rates, and writing exam scores.

I commend the leadership and faculty on their dedication to the children that walk through their doors each day. They have set an incredible example for the other 817 schools in West Virginia.

I equally commend the students and parents of Polk Creek Elementary for their commitment to a quality education and a bright future.

Efforts to bring superior education of all of West Virginia and America are among our top priorities. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Polk Creek Elementary.

HONORING TEXAS LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the legacy of representation and positive activism that has been fostered by the Texas Legislative Black Caucus. Since its inception, this fearless and focused group of State leaders has consistently fought to ensure that the policy priorities of Texas reflect the best interests of all of our citizens. The education, economic, civil and human rights initiative have revolutionized State services and have helped ensure that all Texans are empowered to achieve the American dream.

The Caucus will host its statewide conference from March 14–16, 2001. This year's topic, "Excellence and Achievement for the Millennium," is particularly poignant. As Texas prepares to lead the Nation in the technology driven, global economy of today and tomorrow,

it is critical that its leaders devise ways to ensure that everyone is included. No organization in the State is better prepared or has a better track record of holding those in power accountable for the tools given to Texas families to improve their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the U.S. Congress join me in paying honor and tribute to the Texas Legislative Black Caucus as they continue their critical fight for all Texas families.

TRIBUTE TO PICKENS SCHOOL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Pickens School in recognition of their achievement as an "exemplary" school.

Pickens School has been selected as one of the top 50 schools of West Virginia. "Exemplary" status is based on Stanford Achievement Test results, attendance, drop out rates, and writing exam scores.

I commend the leadership and faculty on their dedication to the children that walk through their doors each day. They have set an incredible example for the other 817 schools in West Virginia.

I equally commend the students and parents of Pickens School for their commitment to a quality education and a bright future.

Efforts to bring superior education to all of West Virginia and America are among our top priorities. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Pickens School.

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, we could do better than this bill. We should do better than this bill. But clearly, today, we will not do better than this bill—and so, with some reluctance, I will vote for this bill.

Over the course of this year, the House has considered several important measures, including bills to respond to the terror attacks on our country. But this could be the most important bill of the year, and maybe even of this 107th Congress—because nothing is more important for the health of our democracy than improving the fairness and inclusiveness of our elections. That is why I am cosponsoring H.R. 1170, introduced by Representative Conyers.

That comprehensive reform bill would establish uniform and nondiscriminatory requirements for Federal elections, which must be met by the 2004 general election. Under that bill, all voting machines would have to: Allow voters to verify their votes before tabulation; notify voters of over votes and under votes; provide an auditable record; and be equally accessible to voters with disabilities and special needs.

Also, under that bill provisional ballots would be permitted in all Federal elections and all voters would have to get a sample ballot and

instructions 10 days prior to election day, and would have to be notified of their voting rights under federal and state law and of the federal and state agencies to contract if they think their rights are violated.

The Conyers bill would provide for federal reimbursement to the states for meeting these requirements and a matching grant fund program that would provide advance assistance to enable states and localities for that purpose. And the bill would establish a politically balanced study Commission to examine voter registration and maintenance of voters rolls; issues of voter intimidation; accuracy of voting; establishing a federal or State election-day holiday; modified polling place hours; and whether an existing or a new Federal agency should provide continuing assistance to states. It would also examine access to ballots and polling places, including notice of voting locations and access for voters with disabilities, limited English proficiency, visual and hearing impairments, and with other special needs. The commission would develop recommendations of the best practices in voting and election administration.

These are all things that should be done—and while it does into do everything that should be done, this bill takes very important steps to improve current conditions. I opposed the rule because I wanted the bill to do more. I supported the motion to recommit for the same reason. But we should not refuse to do something even if we are not going to do all we should. So I will support the bill in the hope that it will be improved as the legislative process continues.

GETTING AMERICA'S ANTI-TERRORIST MESSAGE TO CENTRAL ASIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that the International Relations Committee recently passed legislation to create Radio Free Afghanistan. I also commend the Administration for the steps it has taken to ensure that the United States does not lose the public relations battle as it wages the war on terrorism. It is vital that the people of Afghanistan and its neighbors know the truth about America's objectives in combating terrorism and understand how our actions benefit all of mankind.

Setting up Radio Free Afghanistan will give us a valuable tool to fight the vicious propaganda that Osama bin Laden and his supporters continue to spew forth. But Radio Free Afghanistan cannot succeed in isolation. Its broadcasts must be supplemented by stepped up and improved broadcasts to Afghanistan's neighbors—Pakistan and the Eurasian states of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. As my colleagues are aware, the Taliban are actively supporting an Islamic extremist insurgency in the Fergana Valley, where the borders of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan converge. It is conceivable that the Taliban's ultimate objective is Kazakhstan, the largest country in the region, rich in oil and minerals.

Broadcasts by Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty to these countries should be increased both in air time and in quality. They